

ENCLOSURE A

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20315

SM-482-74

17 September 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief of Staff, US Army
Chief of Naval Operations
Chief of Staff, US Air Force
Commandant of the Marine Corps
Commander in Chief, Alaska
Commander in Chief, Atlantic
Commander in Chief, Continental Air
Defense Command
US Commander in Chief, Europe
Commander in Chief, Pacific
Commander in Chief, US Readiness Command
Commander in Chief, US Southern Command
Commander in Chief, Strategic Air Command
Director, Defense Communications Agency
Director, National Security Agency

Subject: Development of the Lincoln Laboratories
Experimental Communications Satellites 8 and 9
Interim Capability Plan (U)

1. (S) Reference is made to:

a. (S) JCSM-9-73, dated 4 January 1973, subject: "Requirement for Interim Ultrahigh Frequency Communications Satellite Capability (U)," which, among other things, recommended that the Director for Communications-Electronics, Joint Staff, acting in behalf of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, be authorized to exercise operational control of the UHF access to the Lincoln Laboratories Experimental Satellites (LES) 8 and 9 subsequent to completion of their UHF R&D mission. This operational control would not include positioning of the satellites since further testing may be required exclusive of the UHF capability. The memorandum further stated that the Chief of Staff, US Air Force, would act as technical manager of this interim UHF capability in the same manner as the Tactical Satellite Communications (TACSATCOM) interim operational capability (IOC).

Classified by Director, J-6
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO
YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED ON DECEMBER 31, 1980

Downgraded
UNCLASSIFIED

b. (U) A Memorandum of Agreement*, which was signed by the Director of Command Control and Communications, US Air Force, and the Director of Naval Telecommunications Division, US Navy, on 17 October 1973, relative to the deployment and operation of LES-8 and the US Navy-leased satellite communications service (GAPFILLER) on the same frequencies. The purpose of this agreement is to establish the terms under which the US Air Force and the US Navy will share use of the 500 kilohertz channels 249.1 megahertz (MHz) and 302.7 MHz between the LES-8 and Pacific GAPFILLER satellites.

c. (S) A memorandum** by the Acting Director, Telecommunications and Command and Control Systems, dated 15 February 1974, subject: "Requirement for Interim Ultrahigh Frequency Communications Satellite Capability," which provided the following guidance:

(1) (S) No action will be taken by the Military Departments or the Services within those Departments, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, or the Defense agencies and activities to interfere in any way with the primary survivable satellite communications R&D mission of the LES-8 and LES-9.

(2) (U) When satellite access can be achieved, it shall be accomplished in accordance with DOD Directive 5105.44.

(3) (S) The US Air Force should determine when the total R&D testing will be completed and if limited UHF communications access can be granted while remaining portions of the R&D program continue.

(4) (S) Optimum working arrangements should be developed to minimize frequency interference problems that may arise from the operation of LES-8 and LES-9, GAPFILLER, and the Fleet Satellite Communications satellites and that these arrangements must not impact on the primary mission of these satellites.

2. (S) The Joint Chiefs of Staff will retain and exercise operational control of the UHF communications access to the LES-8 and LES-9 subsequent to completion of UHF R&D testing. This operational control will not include positioning or communications configuration control of these satellites, since further testing may be required exclusive of the UHF capability.

3. (S) The Chief of Staff, US Air Force, is designated as the technical manager for the Joint Chiefs of Staff for the use of the LES-8 and LES-9 interim capability.

* Enclosure 3

** Attachment to JCS 2510/7-2

4. ~~CL~~ The Chief of Staff, US Air Force, is requested to determine when the UHF portion of the LES-8 and LES-9 can be utilized for an interim capability and develop a plan, with the assistance of the other Services, for technical management and use of this capability. Development of the plan should begin at such time as LES-8 and LES-9 are launched and be submitted to the Joint Chiefs of Staff within 4 months thereafter. The plan should be developed, based on inputs and requirements of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Services, the commanders of unified and specified commands, and Defense agencies, as appropriate. After the plan is approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, copies will be distributed to the addressees of this memorandum.

5. ~~(C/AFD)~~ The following guidance is provided for use in drafting the plan:

a. The primary mission of the LES-8 and LES-9 is the R&D experiments having to do with survivable satellite communications.

b. Primary technical management is to be accomplished by the Chief of Staff, US Air Force, utilizing appropriate control/relay facilities.

c. A list of categories of users and their assigned priorities will be developed. Provisions will be made for reassigning priorities, as required.

d. As with the TACSATCOM IOC, periodic schedules listing recommended users and priorities will be consolidated and published by the Chief of Staff, US Air Force.

e. Use of the interim UHF capability of LES-8 and LES-9 for communications support for the President will be addressed. Specific information regarding details of Presidential communications support will be provided by the Director, DCA.

f. Scheduling of LES-8/LES-9 time for NATO/US cooperative R&D testing may be considered.

g. The agreement in reference 1b has been made to minimize frequency interference problems that may arise between the UHF portion of LES-8 and LES-9 and the GAFILLER systems. This agreement must be taken into account by the US Air Force and US Navy when coordinating and developing an interim capability plan for use of the UHF portion of the LES-8 and LES-9 subsequent to completion of R&D, to insure maximum utilization of the operational capabilities of both GAFILLER and the LES-8 and LES-9.

5. (U) The Chief of Staff, US Army, the Chief of Naval Operations, and, if it is considered desirable, the Commandant of the Marine Corps may furnish liaison officers to be integrated as working members of the US Air Force control/relay facility staff. Assignment of other Service operation and control personnel at the Air Force Control Center may be desirable to facilitate maximum coordination of joint usage.

7. (C) The communications control/relay facility will have direct access to the National Military Command Center.

8. (U) The commanders of unified and specified commands will normally submit their requests for LES-8 and LES-9 UHF communications support to their component commanders. When component commander support cannot be furnished, support will be requested directly by the commanders of unified and specified commands from the Joint Chiefs of Staff; in either case, it will be scheduled in advance to the maximum extent possible.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

Signed

G. F. COOKE
Brigadier General, USAF
Secretary

Copy to:
DDR&E

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
JCS 2510/7-3

10-20

Enclosure A

(Revised by Decision - 17 September 1974)